

after the nominees testified and answer questions in their own behalf.

BURMA'S SAFFRON REVOLUTION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs concluded a hearing to examine Burma, focusing on anti-government protests led by saffron-robed Buddhist monks ("Saffron Revolution"), after receiving testimony from Senators McConnell and Feinstein; Scot Marciel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Public Affairs; and Michael J. Green, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Aung Din, United States Campaign for Burma, and Tom Malinowski, Human Rights Watch, all of Washington, D.C.

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PREPAREDNESS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Ad Hoc Subcommittee on State, Local, and Private Sector Preparedness and Integration concluded a hearing to examine pandemic influenza, focusing on state and local government efforts to prepare, after receiving testimony from Rear Admiral William C. Vanderwagen, Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Department of Health and Human Services; B. Tilman Jolly, Associate Chief Medical Officer for Medical Readiness, Office of Health Affairs, Department of Homeland Security; Paul K. Halverson, Arkansas Department of Health, Little Rock; Christopher M. Pope, New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Concord; and Yvonne S. Madlock, Memphis and Shelby County Health Department, Memphis, Tennessee, on behalf of the National Association of County and City Health Officials.

RAILROAD ANTITRUST ENFORCEMENT ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 772, to amend the Federal antitrust laws to provide expanded coverage and to eliminate exemptions from such laws that are contrary to the public interest with respect to railroads, after receiving testimony from Charles D. Nottingham, Chairman, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation; William L. Berg, Dairyland Power Cooperative, La Crosse, Wisconsin; Ken Vander Schaaf, Alliant Techsystems Ammunition and Energetics Systems, Radford, Virginia; Robert G. Szabo, Van Ness Feldman, P.C., on behalf of Consumers United for Rail Equity (CURE), and G. Paul Moates, Sidley Austin, LLP, on behalf of the Association of American Railroads, both of Washington, D.C.; and Darren Bush, University of Houston Law Center, Houston, Texas.

VETERANS HEALTH

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine veterans health, focusing on ensuring the care of aging members of the military and military retirees, after receiving testimony from former Senator Robert Dole; Michael Shepherd, Physician, Office of Healthcare Inspections, and Larry M. Reinkemeyer, Director, Kansas City Audit Operations Division, both of the Office of Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; Steven R. Berg, National Alliance to End Homelessness, and Fred Cowell, Paralyzed Veterans of America, both of Washington, D.C.; and Mark S. Kaplan, Portland State University School of Community Health, Portland, Oregon.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 9 public bills, H.R. 3736–3744; and 4 resolutions, H.J. Res. 55; H. Con. Res. 225; and H. Res. 709–710 were introduced.

Pages H11249–50

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H11250–51

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Elton Van Welton, Crossroads Baptist Church, Leesburg, Virginia.

Page H11173

Improving Government Accountability Act: The House passed H.R. 928, to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to enhance the independence of the Inspectors General and to create a Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, by a yea-and-nay vote of 404 yeas to 11 nays, Roll No. 937.

Pages H11182–86, H11187–H11203

Agreed to the Tom Davis (VA) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 274 yeas to 144 nays, Roll No. 936. Subsequently, Representative

Towns reported the bill back to the House with the amendment and the amendment was agreed to.

Pages H11200–02

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment.

Page H11182

Accepted:

Tom Davis (VA) amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 110–358) that revises section 3 (“direct submission of budget requests to Congress”) by striking language authorizing all IGs to independently submit their office’s budget requests to Congress, separate and apart from the President’s budget submission, and inserting language requiring IGs to notify Congress only if the budget request submitted by the agency would “substantially inhibit the Inspector General from performing the duties of the office”;

Pages H11195–96

Miller (NC) amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 110–358) that adds additional reasons for which an IG may be removed from office, makes certain changes to make the statute conform to existing Executive Orders, and requires an annual report by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency on the activities of its Integrity Committee;

Pages H11196–98

Miller (NC) amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 110–358) that establishes a committee of Inspectors General of the Inspectors General Council to review the qualifications of nominees and final candidates for the position of Inspector General in all government establishments and entities to determine whether they meet the integrity and professional qualifications for the position established by the Inspector General Act. The committee is also required to report back to the relevant Senate committee or federal appointing entity;

Page H11198

Gillibrand amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 110–358) that requires that each federal agency website has a direct link to the website of the Office of Inspector General for that agency, that the Inspector General of each agency posts all reports and audits online within one day of being made publicly available, and that all Inspector General websites facilitate the individual, anonymous reporting of waste, fraud and abuse; and

Pages H11198–99

Conyers amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 110–358) that provides that the Department of Justice (DOJ) Inspector General is not required to refer to the Counsel of the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) of DOJ allegations of misconduct involving DOJ attorneys and related personnel where the allegations relate to the exercise of the authority of an attorney to investigate, litigate, or provide

legal advice (by a recorded vote of 217 ayes to 192 noes, Roll No. 935).

Pages H11199–H11200

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House.

Page H11203

H. Res. 701, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by voice vote after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 216 yeas to 192 nays, Roll No. 932.

Pages H11182–86

Presidential Veto Message—Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007:

Read a message from the President wherein he announced his veto of H.R. 976, to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and explained his reasons therefor—ordered printed (H. Doc. 110–62).

Pages H11203–14

Subsequently, the House agreed to the Hoyer motion to postpone further consideration of the veto message and bill until Thursday, October 18th, by a recorded vote of 222 ayes to 197 noes, Roll No. 938.

Pages H11203–14

MEJA Expansion and Enforcement Act of 2007:

The House began consideration of H.R. 2740, to require accountability for contractors and contract personnel under Federal contracts. Further consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, October 4th.

Pages H11177–82, H11214–26

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment.

Pages H11177–78

Accepted:

Conyers manager’s amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 110–359) that clarifies that the FBI investigates those fatalities resulting from the “potentially unlawful” use of force and also allows the Attorney General to request assistance from other federal agencies when assigning personnel and resources to the FBI Theater Investigative Unit. The amendment mandates that the FBI request security assistance from the Secretary of Defense in any case in which the FBI Units need adequate security;

Pages H11222–24

Schakowsky amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 110–359) that requires the Department of Justice to report a list of charges that have been brought against contractors and contract employees in Iraq and Afghanistan, and a description of the legal actions taken by the United States government against contractors and contract employees in Iraq and Afghanistan as a result of a criminal charge or criminal investigation; and

Pages H11224–25

Hill amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 110-359) that requires the Director of the FBI to submit an annual written report to Congress of the progress of the Theater Investigative Units, including the number of reports received of criminal misconduct by contractors, the number of reports received of fatalities caused by contract personnel, the number of cases referred to the Attorney General, and statutory changes necessary for the Director to carry out the duties entailed by this bill.

Pages H11225-26

H. Res. 702, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 217 ayes to 193 noes, Roll No. 934, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 192 nays, Roll No. 933.

Pages H11177-82, H11186-87

Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress—Reappointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's reappointment of Mr. Joseph Cooper of Baltimore, Maryland on the part of the House to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

Page H11226

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H11173.

Senate Referrals: S.J. Res. 13 was held at the desk.

Page H11173

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes and three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H11185-86, H11186-87, H11187, H11200, H11202, H11202-03 and H11213-14. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Committee Meetings

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL PESTS/DISEASES PROTECTION

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture held a hearing to examine the joint performance of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA, Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security in protecting U.S. agriculture from foreign pests and diseases. Testimony was heard from Lisa Shames, Director, Natural Resources and the Environment, GAO; James L. Taylor, Acting Assistant Inspector General, Office of Audits, Department of Homeland Security; Charles H. Bronson, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, State of Florida; John Jurich, Investigator,

House Committee on Agriculture; and public witnesses.

CRANDALL CANYON MINE TRAGEDY

Committee on Education and Labor: Held a hearing on Mine Safety: The Perspective of the Families at Crandall Canyon. Testimony was heard from Jon Huntsman, Jr., Governor of Utah; relatives of miners and public witnesses.

FDA TOBACCO PRODUCTS REGULATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on H.R. 1108, Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. Testimony was heard from Fred J. Jacobs, M.D., Commissioner, Department of Health and Senior Services, State of New Jersey; and public witnesses.

GLOBAL POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled "The Fight Against Global Poverty and Inequality: The World Bank's Approach to Core Labor Standards and Employment Creation." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

INSURANCE REGULATORY REFORM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled "Need for Insurance Regulatory Reform." Testimony was heard from Walter Bell, Commissioner, Department of Insurance, State of Alabama; and public witnesses.

OUTSTANDING HOLOCAUST ISSUES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Europe held a hearing on America's Role in Addressing Outstanding Holocaust Issues. Testimony was heard from J. Christian Kennedy, Special Envoy, Holocaust Issues, Bureau of European Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

HOMELAND SECURITY EXERCISES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response held a hearing entitled "Practicing Like We Play: Examining Homeland Security Exercises." Testimony was heard from Dennis R. Schrader, Deputy Administrator, National Preparedness, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security; MG Steven Saunders, USA, Director, Joint Doctrine, Training and Force Development, National Guard Bureau; and James Langenbach, Program Manager, Operations Branch, Division of Health Infrastructure Preparedness and Emergency Response, Department of Health and Senior Services, State of New Jersey.